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WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS

INVOLVED

ITEM NO:

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DATE: 25 NOVEMBER 1974

SUBJECT: PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT'S BELIEF THAT US INTELLIGENCE IS MASTERMINDING PLOT AGAINST IT.

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THE GOVERNMENT IS CONVINCED THAT

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US INTELLIGENCE IS HEAVILY INVOLVED IN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL EFFORTS TO WEAKEN THE MILITARY REGIME OF PRESIDENT EVELASCO.

THE BELIEF THAT THE US IS BASICALLY HOSTILE TO VELASCO'S
GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN AN UNDERLYING FACTOR IN PERU'S FOREIGN
POLICY SINCE THE MILITARY TOOK POWER IN 1968. THIS CONCERN HAS
INCREASED SINCE EVIDENCE OF US INVOLVEMENT IN CHILEAN AFFAIRS
BECAME PUBLIC LAST SUMMER. IN ADDITION, THE GOVERNMENT FOCUS
WIDESPREAD AND CIVILIAN OPPOSITION ALONG WITH UNREST WITHIN THE
MILITARY—A SITUATION THAT CONTRIBUTES TO THE INCLINATION TO

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FIND A SCAPEGOAT SUCH AS THE CIA. CONCERN OVER SECURITY FOR LATIN AMERICAN, THE MEETING OF EIGHT PRESIDENTS NEXT MONTH HAS ALSO MADE THE GOVERNMENT SENSITIVE TO DOMESTIC UNREST.

THIS REPORT PROBABLY REFLECTS ACCURATELY THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN ABOUT FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT IN ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS PARTICULARLY AS IT COULD RELATE TO A POSSIBLE CONFLICT WITH PERU. THE REPORT, HOWEVER, SEEMS TO EXAGGERATE THE EXTENT TO WHICH PERUVIAN LEADERS BELIEVE END US INTELLIGENCE IS INVOLVED. MOREOVER, THE ASSUMPTION OF US INTERFERENCE IS ONLY ONE OF SEVERAL FACTORS INFLUENCING VELASCO'S REACTIONS TO PROBLEMS FACING HIS REGIME. E-2 IMPDET.A 25X1A9a (SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: WH DIV AND NIO

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